

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF APRIL 7TH, 1938.

The Board of Public Works met in the offices of the Board of Public Works, Union Trust Building, Baltimore, on Thursday, April 7th, 1938.

Present:

Harry W. Nice, Governor.
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller.
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer.

Mr. Wm. H. Blakeman, State Budget Director, attended the meeting.

The Board took up the question of a site for the proposed State Office Building, at Annapolis. Mr. James A. Walton and Mr. Joseph D. Lazenby, whom the Board had requested to secure information as to prices on property located in the College Avenue site, were present. Mr. Henry P. Hopkins and Mr. Laurence Hall Fowler, Architects for the proposed building, were also present.

Mr. Walton submitted to the Board a report prepared by him and Mr. Lazenby, which Mr. Walton read at the meeting, giving information as to prices on the various properties located in the site. Mr. Walton stated that it was the opinion of himself and Mr. Lazenby that the property could be acquired for \$150,000, although owners of three of the properties in the site were unwilling to name a price at which they would be willing to sell their properties to the State. The figure of \$150,000 includes estimates agreed upon by Mr. Walton and Mr. Lazenby as the amounts for which the State ought to be able to purchase the property.

The question of the moving of the State Armory from its present site on Bladen Street to a position facing Carroll Street in the site was discussed, and Mr. Hopkins stated that he had received two estimates from responsible contractors as to the approximate cost of moving the building and facing it on Carroll Street in the same condition in which it is at the present time, one estimate being \$50,000 and the other estimate being \$65,000. These amounts were not given as definite proposals, but merely as information to the Board as the approximate cost of moving the building.

Mr. Hopkins submitted to the Board statements showing suggestions for a building in several sizes, ranging in cubic feet area, from 270,000 cu. ft. to 970,000 cu. ft.

After a great deal of consideration of the matter, Mr. Miles moved that the Board decide upon the College Avenue site as the location for the proposed building. Mr. Gordy seconded the motion. The Governor stated he was in agreement with the Comptroller and Treasurer, and was desirous of making the decision of the Board unanimous. The Secretary was so instructed to record the views of the Board.

The Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Attorney General, and advise him that the Board wants him to proceed with the acquisition of the property in the site through condemnation proceedings.

The Architects were requested to prepare tentative sketches for a building based on plan "D" of their report dated April 6th, 1938. The Architects were further authorized to have a survey made of the property for their use in connection with preparation of plans for the building.

It was agreed that Mr. James A. Walton and Mr. Joseph D. Lazenby be paid \$300.00 each for their services in securing information for the Board as to the values of property in the site, as set forth in their report to the Board.

Dr. H. C. Byrd, President of the University of Maryland, appeared before the Board, and advised the Board that he had been successful in securing funds from the Works Progress Administration, in accordance with a resolution which the Board had authorized at a previous meeting. Dr. Byrd stated it would be necessary to make some special provisions in contracts between the State and contractors who will do the work for the State, to take care of requirements of the Works Progress Administration in the contributing of funds to the project.

Dr. Byrd was authorized to look after the details in connection with these requirements.

The Board approved Budget Amendments to State Agencies, as follows -

Springfield State Hospital
State Department of Health - March 19th, 1938
Eastern Shore State Hospital - March 17th, 1938.
The Public Schools - March 29th, 1938.
State Industrial Acc. Com. - April 5th, 1938. (2)

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a report of audit made by the State Auditor of the accounts and records of Mr. E. E. Friend, former Register of Wills for Garrett County, showing an amount of \$5,831.81 due the State. Some exception was taken to items included in the audit, which would reduce the amount to \$4,317.98. Mr. Walter W. Dawson (son-in-law of Mr. Friend) stated a willingness on his part to settle the claim by payment of the sum of \$4,317.98. The claim covers the period from 1903 to the end of Mr. Friend's term in 1934. It was claimed that some of the amounts charged to Mr. Friend in the Auditor's report were not collected by him, although his failure to collect would cause him to be chargeable with the amounts because of his obligation as Register of Wills to have effected collection of them.

The Board considered the matter as well as the fact that the sureties on Mr. Friend's bonds were individuals, that some of them were dead and others without means to make good claims against them, and approved the acceptance by the Comptroller of the sum of \$4,317.98 from Mr. Dawson in settlement of the State's claim against Mr. Friend to the end of his term of office.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from the Hotel Rennert, offering to loan to the Board a mural depicting the inspiration to Francis Scott Key, out of which inspiration he wrote the Star Spangled Banner. This mural is 9'2" high and 14'1" wide, and is now hanging on the wall at the Hotel. The Hotel intends to make improvements, and having decided to remove the mural from the wall, offered it as a loan to the Board.

The Secretary was instructed to write the Hotel Rennert, advising that any consideration to be given the painting would be in connection with the proposed State Office Building at Annapolis, and stating it would have to defer consideration of the offer until some later date. In the meantime the Architects will be requested to review the painting and decide whether it could be used in some location in the new building.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter dated March 24th, 1938, from Mr. W. David Tilghman, Jr., Commissioner of Loans, requesting authority to engage additional office space for the operations of his Department. The Board approved the request of Mr. Tilghman that he be authorized

to lease space consisting of six offices and a fair size reception room, containing 1360 square feet, at a cost of \$2670.00 per year, in the Calvert Building, Baltimore.

Mr. Miles took up with the Board the question of release of bonds given by him in 1937 in connection with his obligations for the handling of funds of the Unemployment Compensation Board, requesting passage of resolution releasing the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland from liability under the bonds, as set forth in the resolution, from the date of filing of new bonds to take the place of the bonds of the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland. The resolution is as follows -

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer of the State of Maryland heretofore filed with this Board, two bonds with the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland as surety thereon dated the 1st day of February, 1937, one in the penalty of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.), covering the faithful performance of his duties as Treasurer and Custodian of the Unemployment Compensation Fund established by Section 9 of the Unemployment Compensation Law passed at the December, 1936, Special Session of the General Assembly of Maryland, and the other in the penalty of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), covering the faithful performance of his duties as Treasurer and Custodian of the Unemployment Compensation Administration Fund established by Section 13 of said Unemployment Compensation Law: and

WHEREAS, the said Hooper S. Miles has filed two new bonds dated the 1st day of February, 1938, with the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company as Surety thereon, in the same penalties and conditioned for the faithful performance of the same duties as set forth in said bonds hereinabove mentioned, which bonds were given in substitution of the bonds of the said Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the said Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland be and the same is hereby released of and from any and all liability whatsoever under its said bonds for acts and defaults of the said Hooper S. Miles occurring after the date of said new bonds.

The resolution was duly approved and the Secretary was authorized to forward the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland a copy of it.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a request of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles that he be authorized to charge off his books as uncollectible the amount of \$100.00, charged in the case of Woodrow Bussard, before C. M. Murray, Justice of the Peace, Ridgeville, Maryland.

In view of the circumstances set forth in the Commissioner's statement accompanying his request, the Board agreed to authorize him to charge the account from his books.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board, a letter dated March 18th, 1938 from the State Department of Forestry, requesting authority for the purchase of 161 acres of land at \$3.00 per acre, from the Jos. H. Howard heirs in Charles County, Maryland.

The request was duly approved.

The Board approved the acceptance by the State Department of Forestry of equipment consisting of four automobile trucks turned over to the State Department of Forestry by the Treasury Department, Procurement Division, as set forth in their letter of March 14th, 1938, to the State Department of Forestry,

mach.
The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Mr. Herbert A. Wagner, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Maryland Academy of Sciences, Baltimore, requesting that there be turned over to the Academy the Geological Collection now in the State House at Annapolis, Maryland.

The Secretary was instructed to communicate with Mr. Wagner, and advise him that the State would be willing to turn the collection over to the Academy if the Academy will arrange for the removal of it, and accept it with the understanding that if at any future date the State is desirous of having the collection returned to it this will be done.

The Board approved a proposed lease between Irene V. Vielt and the Unemployment Compensation Board, for space described as the rear portion of the second floor of the premises known as 24 Commerce Street, Rockville, Maryland, containing approximately 700 square feet, for ten months, beginning on the first day of March, 1938, and ending on the 31st day of December, 1938, at the total rental of Six Hundred Dollars, payable in equal monthly installments of Sixty Dollars on the first day of each and every month in advance.

*St. Dept.
Public Welfare*
The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter dated March 30th, 1938, from Mr. J. Milton Patterson, Executive Secretary, Board of State Aid and Charities, requesting that the Board make available from funds returned to the State Treasury recently from the Revolving Fund (old Federal funds) of the Board of State Aid and Charities, for conducting a survey of the deaf children within the State of Maryland, the work to be done with the approval of the State Department of Education.

The Board approved the request and authorized the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$2,000 out of said funds in the State Treasury.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Mr. Vincent A. Cinquegrani, Secretary, Board of Barber Examiners, dated April 1, 1938, requesting that the Secretary of the Board be authorized to furnish a bond in the amount of \$600.00 in lieu of the bond for \$5,000, which the law requires.

The Board decided that it would not be acting within its prerogatives in authorizing a bond which would not conform to the requirements of the law.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter dated April 2nd, from the State Department of Forestry, requesting authority for the purchase of approximately 1,000 acres of land, at \$2.00 per acre, from the Strecker Brothers Company, of Marietta, Ohio, the tract being adjacent to the Backbone Mountain section of the Potomac State Forest.

The request was duly approved.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter dated April 5th, 1938, from the State Roads Commission, in which authority was requested for expenditure of funds in the amount of \$40,000 from the Emergency Reconstruction Bond Issue of 1936, for the reconstruction of a section of highway, including a bridge, over Fishing Creek on the road from North Beach to Chesapeake Beach, in Calvert County. The request was duly approved.

The Governor submitted to the Board a letter he received from Mr. George M. Shriver, Chairman of the Arsenal and Veterans Memorial Commission, in which attention was called to the condition of buildings of the Old Soldiers' Home property in Pikesville, and requesting the Board to make available funds for repairs to the property.

The Board decided it was unable to comply with Mr. Shriver's request, because of the fact that there were no funds available from any source in the State Treasury for the use indicated.

*St. office Bldg.
Loan of 1937*

On Motion duly seconded, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT ORDERED, That in accordance with the Acts of 1937 Chapter 368, the Governor, Comptroller of the Treasury, and the Treasurer of the State be and they are hereby authorized and directed to advertise twice a week for four successive weeks in the Baltimore Sun and the Baltimore News, the first insertion to bear date of May 2nd, 1938, and the last insertion to bear date of May 27th, 1938, that the Treasurer will receive in the office of the Treasurer at Annapolis, Maryland, at any time up to 12 o'clock, noon, on June 1st, 1938, bids for bonds of the State of Maryland in the aggregate sum of \$900,000.00, to be issued under the provisions of said Act; said bids to be contained in sealed envelopes appropriately endorsed, and each bid to be accompanied by a certified check upon some responsible banking institution, drawn to the order of the Treasurer of Maryland for five per centum of the par value of the amount bid for. All bids will be opened at 12 o'clock noon on the 1st day of June, 1938.

Said bonds shall be dated the 15th day of June, 1938. The bidders shall be required to indicate in their bids the rate of interest to be paid on the bonds, on which rate their bids are to be based and submitted. The rate named must be a multiple of one-fourth of one per centum, the interest to be payable semi-Annually on the fifteenth days of December and June, respectively during the continuance of said loan, and all bids shall be based on an offering to pay not less than par for the bonds. Said bonds shall be of the denomination of \$1,000 each, all shall be subject to registration as to principal, and all shall be issued with interest coupons attached and shall be deliverable on the 15th day of June, 1938. The said bonds shall be issued upon the Serial Annuity Plan as provided in said Act.

The right shall be reserved to accept one bid for all of said loan, or separate bids for parts of said loan, as may produce the highest amount; and the right shall also be reserved to accept bids which are for parts of said loan, but which may not be for all, and to reject all bids or any bids. If two or more responsible bidders shall make the same bid and each bid shall be the highest, and the certificates so bid for by such highest responsible bidders shall be in excess of the whole amount of certificates as offered for sale, then such certificates of indebtedness may be awarded in a ratable proportion to such responsible bidders bidding the same price.

The Governor, Comptroller and the Treasurer shall cause to be prepared bonds in good and sufficient form for the amount of said loan.

There was submitted to the Board by Mr. George L. Hall, Acting Chief Engineer of the State Department of Health, a schedule of minimum wage rates for use in connection with the construction of a proposed water supply and sewerage improvements at Montrose School for Girls and Springfield State Hospital. These rates were determined by Mr. Hall and the Architects for the work at the two institutions, and were agreed upon by two local contractors, who were called upon to review them. The rates were duly approved by the Board of Public Works.

SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM WAGE RATES. Attention is called to the fact that not less than the minimum wage rates listed below shall be paid on this project.

Occupation.	Minimum Hourly Rate.
<u>Skilled.</u>	
Bricklayer	90¢
Carpenter	"
Steam Shovel Operator	"
Cement Gun Operator	"
Electrician	"
Plumber	"
Pump Setter	"
Clamshell Operator	"
Trenching Machine Operator	"
Cement Finisher	"
Painter	"
Roller Operator	"
Composition Roofer	"
Machinist	"
<u>Semi-Skilled.</u>	
Pipe Layer for Water and Sewer Lines	60¢
Roller Operator for Patch Work	"
Reinforcement Steel Rodman	"
Firemen of Boilers	"
Pneumatic Drill Operator	"
Roofer Helper	"
Mortar Mixer	"
Backfill Operator	"
Pipe Caulker	"
Carpenter Helper	"
Truck Drivers - $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 Tons Capacity	"
Concrete Mixer Operator	"
Compressor Operator	"
Timberman	"
Electrician Helper	"
Roofer Helper	"
Drag Scoop Operator	"
<u>Unskilled.</u>	
Laborer	40¢
Kettleman	"
Pipe Jointer	"
Pipe Yarnier	"
Team Driver	"
Hod Carrier	"
Truck Driver - Under $1\frac{1}{2}$ Tons Capacity	"
Watchman \$12.00 per week up to 40 hours;	-
40¢ per hour for less than 40 hours.	-

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Joseph C. Melusker
Secretary.